

## **ARMED ENCOUNTER IN EAST COUNTY**

**Campo, CA** - U.S. Border Patrol and Mexican Military came face-to-face last night near Campo when four Mexican soldiers accidentally crossed over into the United States.

Just before 8:00, Saturday evening, a Campo Border Patrol Agent discovered the foot sign of four individuals traveling north from the international border.

The agent followed the tracks about one mile north to an area known as the "Yellow Scraper", approximately seven miles east of the Tecate port of entry where he encountered four heavily armed men in camouflage uniforms. The men identified themselves as members of the Mexican military, working on a counter drug mission. The four men, realizing that there were now in the United States cooperated with Border Patrol Agents and were transported to the Campo station. While records checks were being run, the identity and military duty status of the four was verified with their unit commander and the Mexican Consulate.

This incident reflects the need to continue the cross border coordination efforts already begun. The lack of communication about this operation could have been a recipe for disaster. Thankfully cooler heads prevailed. The restraint shown in this situation illustrates the quality of training our agents receive and speaks volumes about their professionalism.

The four men and all their equipment were returned to Mexico through the San Ysidro Port of entry. They were met by members of the Mexican Judicial Police who are investigating the incident.